

Abstract

A thin stone cutting apparatus and method includes a groove cutting device for cutting a groove in a side of a block of stone along a first cutting plane. A block cutting
5 device cuts each block of stone in a direction from an opposite side of the block. A block cutting device cuts each block along a second cutting plane co-planar with the first cutting plane. Alternatively, the first and second cutting planes of the groove cutting device and the block cutting device can be at different angles to one another. A block holder device includes a linear member received in a groove of each block when each
10 block is being cut by the block cutting device. A conveyor is provided for moving each block relative to the block cutting device where the linear member of the block holder device is mounted to the conveyor. Alternatively, the block cutting device is moveable relative to the block holder device. The resulting stone includes a rock body made from natural stone and having a front, and an opposite facing back. A protruding linear ridge
15 extends from the back of the rock body. A plurality of the thin stones can be assembled to form a wall wherein the mortar holds the thin stones to a vertical surface wherein the linear ridges of the thin stones protrude into the mortar.

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